

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1039
By Clabough

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Mari Bales, 2004
Salutatorian of Gatlinburg-Pittman High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Mari Bales is one such exceptional student who was recently named Salutatorian of the 2004 graduating class at Gatlinburg-Pittman High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Mari has achieved outstanding academic success, and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable high school career, Ms. Bales has earned an exemplary grade point average, and she is a National Merit Scholar; and

WHEREAS, Mari has won numerous academic honors, including a Magna Cum Laude award in Latin I, a Geometry award, a World Geography award, an Honors Algebra II award, a Summa Cum Laude award in Latin II, American Musical Foundation Band Honors, a Certificate of Merit for participation in the National Latin Examination, *The Instrumentalist Magazine* Musicianship Award for 2002, *The Instrumentalist Magazine* First Chair Award in 2002 and 2003, and various awards in forensic meets; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bales is an accomplished musician who plays the clarinet, and she has participated in numerous clinics, talent shows, the Carolina Band Festival and Conductors' Conference, the Carson-Newman Community College summer music camp and the University of Tennessee clarinet symposium in 2001; as a band member, she has played at First Methodist Church in Sevierville, at local elementary schools, and at the Ripley's Aquarium Governor's dedication, marched and played at football games, and participated in at marching and concert band competitions; and

WHEREAS, a well rounded individual, Mari is a four-year veteran of the Gatlinburg-Pittman High School swim team, played Coed AYSO soccer in the tenth grade, and played on the Gatlinburg-Pittman Lady Highlanders soccer team in the twelfth grade; she is also a two-year member of the school forensics team and a member of the Saturday Night Stiffs, an organization whose members attend low budget horror films each week and print a newspaper, including an editorial and a review of each week's film; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bales is an active and devout member of the Presbyterian Church in Gatlinburg, where she is a member of the youth group and the music group; she performs volunteer work in her community and has been a summer lifeguard at the local Bible camp and at the Gatlinburg Community Center, as well as working part-time at the local library in the summer of 2003; and

WHEREAS, a leader among her peers, Mari served as Student Council President in the 12th grade, Swim Team captain in the 12th grade, Clarinet section leader in the band during the 2002 concert season, and lead water exercise classes in 2003; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bales display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success, as she plans to attend in Emory University in Atlanta; and

WHEREAS Mari's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Mari Bales' dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor 2004 Gatlinburg-Pittman High School Salutatorian, Mari Bales, on her impressive academic achievement, and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.